

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)
)
Revocation of the Educator's Certificate)
)
of Sheila Thomas Hannah)
)
Certificate # 187080)

ORDER OF SUSPENSION (BREACH OF CONTRACT)

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on January 7, 2002. Notice of the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator's certificate (certificate) was sent to Ms. Sheila Hannah from the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) by certified mail, restricted delivery, and return receipt requested. Ms. Hannah received the notice as evidenced by the signed postal receipt. Ms. Hannah did request a hearing but later withdrew her request. After considering the evidence presented by the Department the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Hannah's certificate # 187080 for one year.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Hannah holds a valid certificate. She signed an induction teaching contract with the Greenville County School District (District) for the 2002-2003 school year. In a letter dated August 26, 2002, Ms. Hannah was notified that the District was transferring her from Skyland Elementary to Woodland Elementary effective August 27, 2002. In a letter dated August 26, 2002, Ms. Hannah wrote to Superintendent William Harner that she was resigning effective immediately, because she did not wish to transfer. On October 8, 2002, the Greenville County District Board of Trustees voted to recommend that the State Board suspend Ms. Hannah's certificate. On October 14, 2002, Debi

Bush, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, notified the Department of Ms. Hannah's breach of contract.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board may suspend the certificate of any person for breach of contract. S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-530 (1990). Unprofessional conduct includes breach of contract. S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (1992). The State Board finds that there is conclusive evidence to support its decision to suspend Ms. Hannah's certificate #187080 for one year from August 26, 2002, through August 25, 2003, on the ground of unprofessional conduct due to breach of contract. At the end of the suspension period if she wants her certificate reinstated, Ms. Hannah may make a written request to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ J. Spratt White
J. Spratt White
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

January 7, 2003